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Tutunjian Introduces Weekend Downtown Cleanup

(January 8, 2004- TROY)- Making good on a campaign promise, Mayor Harry Tutunjian introduced a weekend cleanup plan for the Central Business District on Friday.

Beginning this weekend, the City of Troy will start a new cleanup plan in the downtown area that will attack the trash problem on occurs on weekends.

"Everyone who has ever spent time in downtown Troy on the weekends understands that there can be issues with cleanliness, particularly in the areas around bars and restaurants," Tutunjian said. "Paper plates strewn about the city, and overflowing garbage cans are unsightly and not conducive to the image we are trying to portray. This is a program that will address those issues."

The cleanup will take place every weekend, on both Saturday and Sunday, from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Trash receptacles, litter in the streets, and other unsightly problems will be taken care of by a crew of two laborers, a driver, and one supervisor for the time being.

The financial key to the plan is that the work will be done using no overtime, just comp time that will be used correctly. There will be no abuse of acquired time. Early in his campaign, Tutunjian opened his headquarters on the corner of Fourth and Congress Streets and promised to cleanup the city from that corner out. This weekend, the first step of that plan will take place.

"I talked with members of my new administration and told them that one of my real concerns was cleaning up everything in the downtown after people have been out all night," Tutunjian said. "We worked on a plan, and for the foreseeable future, city workers will be out cleaning up the streets so that we may present the city in fine fashion to the growing number of visitors we are welcoming."

"We hope that this also sends a message to the people of Troy," Tutunjian added. "We are serious about cleaning up the City of Troy, and believe it will have a snowball effect. Changing the way things have been done in the past, will help better the city in the future."